

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A media processor for a voice conferencing system, the media processor comprising:
  - a network interface that receives incoming voice conference traffic; and
  - a processor that directs a selected portion of the incoming voice conference traffic through the network interface to a network distribution address.
2. The media processor of claim 1, where the network distribution address is a multicast address.
3. The media processor of claim 1, where the incoming voice conference traffic comprises voice channels, and further comprising a n-loudest channel filter that determines the selected portion as up to 'n' loudest of the voice channels.
4. The media processor of claim 1, where the network interface listens on an assigned network address to receive a selected transmission of voice conference traffic from a second media processor.
5. The media processor of claim 4, where the processor determines a net voice conference traffic result of no more than 'n' loudest voice channels from the selected portion of the incoming voice conference traffic and the selected transmission from the second media processor.
6. The media processor of claim 1, where the processor breaks the selected portion into packets prior to transmission through the network interface.



7. The media processor of claim 6, where the packets are User Datagram Protocol (UDP) packets.
8. The media processor claim 4, further comprising a multicast buffer for storing at least a portion of the selected transmission.
9. A voice conferencing system comprising:
  - a group of media processors assigned to concurrently support a voice conference; and
  - distribution circuitry coupled to the group of media processors, the distribution circuitry operable to communicate selected data received from a first media processor in the group to remaining media processors in the group.
10. The voice conferencing system of claim 9, where the distribution circuitry comprises a multicast switch.
11. The voice conferencing system of claim 9, where the distribution circuitry communicates the selected data to a network distribution address.
12. The voice conferencing system of claim 11, where the network distribution address is a User Datagram Protocol (UDP) multicast address.
13. The voice conferencing system of claim 9, where the first media processor comprises a first network interface that receives incoming voice conference traffic, and a traffic filter that determines the selected data from the incoming voice conference traffic.
14. The voice conferencing system of claim 13, where the incoming voice conference traffic comprises voice channels, and where the traffic filter is an n-loudest voice channel filter.



15. The voice conferencing system of claim 9, where the first media processor is operable to receive a selected transmission of voice conference traffic originating from at least one other media processor in the group.

16. The voice conferencing system of claim 15, where the first media processor determines a net voice conference traffic result of no more than 'n' loudest voice channels from the selected data and the selected transmission.

17. A method for exchanging voice conference data, the method comprising:

receiving incoming voice conference traffic at a first media processor;  
and

transmitting a selected portion of the incoming voice conference traffic to a network distribution address.

18. The method of claim 17, where transmitting comprises transmitting to a UDP multicast address.

19. The method of claim 17, where the incoming voice conference traffic comprises voice channels, and further comprising selecting fewer than all the voice channels in the incoming voice conference traffic as the selected portion.

20. The method of claim 19, further comprising receiving a selected transmission of voice conference traffic from a second media processor.

21. The method of claim 20, further comprising determining a net voice conference traffic result from the selected portion of the incoming voice conference traffic and the selected transmission from the second media processor.

22. A method for conducting a voice conference comprising:



receiving first endpoint traffic at a first media processor;  
transmitting from the first media processor a selected portion of the first endpoint traffic;

receiving second endpoint traffic at a second media processor;  
distributing the selected portion to the second media processor; and  
receiving the selected portion at the second media processor.

23. The method of claim 22, further comprising determining, at the second media processor, a second endpoint net traffic result from the selected portion and the second endpoint traffic.

24. The method of claim 23, where determining a second endpoint net traffic result comprises selecting fewer than all voice channels present in the selected portion and in the second endpoint traffic.

25. The method of claim 22, further comprising:  
transmitting from the second media processor a selected portion of the second endpoint traffic to distribution circuitry;  
distributing the selected portion of the second endpoint traffic to a media processor group including the first media processor;  
receiving the selected portion of the second endpoint traffic at the first media processor; and  
determining at the first media processor a first endpoint net traffic result from the selected portions of the endpoint traffic.

26. The method of claim 22, where distributing comprises transmitting to a multicast address..

27. A machine readable medium encoded with instructions that cause a media processor to perform a method comprising:  
receiving incoming voice conference traffic; and



transmitting a selected portion of the incoming voice conference traffic to a media processor group distribution address.

28. The machine readable medium of claim 27, where the media processor group distribution address is a multicast address.

29. The machine readable medium of claim 27, further comprising filtering the incoming voice conference traffic to obtain the selected portion.

30. The machine readable medium of claim 27, further comprising receiving a distribution transmission of voice conference traffic from a second media processor.

31. The machine readable medium of claim 30, further comprising determining a net voice conference traffic result from the selected portion of the incoming voice conference traffic and the distribution transmission from the second media processor.